

## Commanding General's Labor Day Message

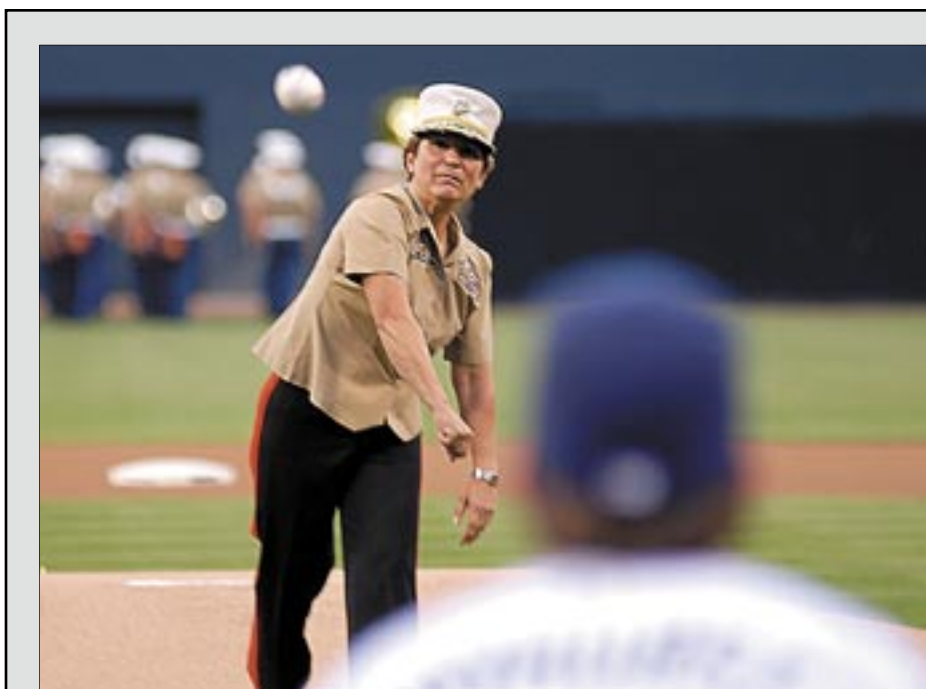
**L**abor Day was created in 1882 to provide a day off for the working man. Since then, the first Monday in September has been set aside to honor the hard working and dedicated citizens who form the backbone of this great nation. For the Marines, Sailors, Civilians and Coastguardsmen of MCRD/WRR, this day is an opportunity to reflect on your efforts over the past year, and the impact that they have for the depot, for the community of San Diego, and the entire nation. Every day you continue to support the Global War on Terror and make a difference in the lives of countless Americans. For this, you have my gratitude and respect.

Labor Day is also a time to reflect on our core values of honor, courage and commitment – the driving force behind everything that we do. These values, which compel us to work hard, also remind us that we have a responsibility to our country and fellow service members this holiday weekend. As autumn approaches and you enjoy the final days of summer, remember to be safe, to be mindful of your surroundings, and to exercise operational risk management in everything that you do. This year we have seen a rise in motorcycle related incidents. Motorcycles are a great way to enjoy San Diego's beautiful weather, but they come with an inherent degree of risk. If you plan on riding a motorcycle, make sure you wear the appropriate personal protective equipment, keep your bikes properly maintained, and follow the rules of the road. Remember, you are our nation's most important assets. It is of the upmost importance that you come back from this holiday safe, well rested and in good health.

Finally, as you celebrate Labor Day, take a moment to remember our brothers and sisters in arms who do not get a reprieve from their labor; who stand watch in places like Iraq and Afghanistan, combating an enemy who does not rest and will not stop until they see everything that we cherish destroyed. It is because of these brave Americans that we are able to relax and spend time with our families. Honor them by making this a safe and enjoyable Labor Day. Semper Fidelis!

*A. Salinas*

A. SALINAS  
Brigadier General  
U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding General



Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, throws out the ceremonial first pitch at the Padres game against the Arizona Diamondbacks at Petco Park Tuesday, for the start of San Diego's Fleet Week '08 celebration. Fleet Week is an annual San Diego event celebrated since 1997, allowing the community to express support for America's military with parades, activities and the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar airshow.

Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens

## Marines showcase Combat Fitness Test

BY LANCE CPL. CRISTINA N. GIL  
Division of Public Affairs

With the Corps' new combat fitness test nearing, Training and Education Command officials began a worldwide road show for Marines and media.

In the next few months at installations around the globe, instructors from the Martial Arts Center of Excellence in Quantico, Va., will demonstrate how to conduct the CFT, which follows recent revisions to the Corps' physical fitness, body composition and military appearance programs. These revisions were signed by the commandant earlier this month in Marine Corps Orders 6100.13 and 6110.13.

The CFT is intended to keep Marines ready for the physical rigors of contemporary combat operations. Individual readiness will be measured by requiring Marines in battle dress uniform to sprint a timed 880 yards, lift a 30-pound ammunition can overhead from shoulder height repeatedly for two minutes, and perform a maneuver-under-fire event, which is a timed 300-yard shuttle run in which Marines are paired up by size and perform a series of combat-related tasks.

"The CFT shows that you have to train a whole lot more than just preparing for a three-mile run and 20 pull-ups," said Lance Cpl. James

T. Hammons, who ran a trial CFT at Marine Corps Base Quantico. "It is an evaluation that involves so much more."

An initial phase-in period, in which grading will be pass or fail, is in effect until Sept. 30, 2009. Results will be placed in unit diary reports and fitness reports, but will not count toward performance evaluation until the CFT is officially implemented Oct. 1, 2009, according to All-Marine Message 032/08.

"Our nation has high expectations of her Marines," said Gen. James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps. "Accordingly, our high standards of professional

and personal performance, to include our physical fitness and military appearance, must be maintained and adhered to by every Marine."

Several variations were tested on more than 2,500 Marines from 18 separate commands since the commandant made his objectives for the CFT clear in November 2007, said physical readiness programs officer Col. Brian J. McGuire, TECOM.

The commandant wanted something that would complement the physical fitness program and test a Marine's readiness in an operational environment, McGuire said. All of the events are linked to

SEE **Combat fitness, pg. 2**



Marines perform the fireman's carry portion of the Combat Fitness Test during a trial exercise on July 8 at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. The CFT is being implemented throughout the Marine Corps to test Marines' ability in combat related exercises. Lance Cpl. Patricia D. Lockhart



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# ALMAR change keeps Marine Corps to a higher standard

BY SGT. JAMES GREEN  
*Chevron staff*

The Marine recruiter is the first element and idea of what the Marines are about for most young men and women who choose to join the Corps.

A Marine in his dress blues and the professionalism and attention to appearance that comes with donning the uniform is sometimes the deciding factor on which branch of service to choose.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James T. Conway stated in a recent change to ALMAR 033/08 that in the last decade, tendencies toward weight gain have become a dangerous trend in American society. He said even in a time of conflict Marines have to hold themselves to a higher standard, and must maintain that standard.

This statement is one of the reasons the Marine Corps is implementing revisions to the Marine Corps Physical Fitness Program and the development of the Marine Corps Body Composition and Military Appearance Program.

The ALMAR states the inspector general’s review of the Marine Corps Body Composition Program revealed that there are Marines who do not meet the standards set forth by the commandant that are not on the BCP.

Gen. Conway stated that this impacts combat efficiency, effectiveness and, unfortunately, is a clear indicator of some commander’s failure to enforce standards. Because of this finding, changes to the BCP and implementation of the MAP are effective immediately.

The new order is designed to serve as the link between physical fitness test scores and personal appearance. It also inserts a commander’s input into the personal appearance assessment process.

After extensive testing and health-based research findings, the Marine Corps height, weight and body composition standards are directly derived from the Department of Defense standards.

Because BCP and MAP are changes to an existing program, the commandant directs units to establish an informal phase that will be conducted normally by the executive officers for officers, and senior enlisted advisors for enlisted Marines.

The informal phase is then further broken down into two periods that allow Marines the opportunity to lose or reapportion weight in order to avoid assignment to the commander’s formal BCP.

The first period is the 60-day notification period when Marines who are initially determined to be out of standards by their unit will be issued an informal letter of concern by the executive officer or senior enlisted advisor along with a measurable 60-day action plan. The methods of tracking Marines and their progress will be the responsibility of the unit, but no unit diary or service record book counseling will be issued.

If sufficient progress to remove Marines from a supervised effort is not made at the end of the notification period, the 60-day cautionary period begins.

In this period a letter of caution will be issued by the executive officer or senior enlisted advisor warning Marines if they does not meet

the standards in the next 60-day period, enrollment in a formal BCP is inevitable. The unit leaders should then reevaluate the plan for the Marines’ weight loss or reapportion for effectiveness. Again, no unit diary or SRB entry will be made.

If Marines still fail to meet the standards they will be immediately be placed on the Marine Corps’ Body Composition Program by the commanding officer, and a unit diary entry will be made in conjunction with a SRB counseling.

The commander will then review the weight loss or reapportion plan the Marines have been following for the previous 120 days for effectiveness and probable readjustment. He will make available every

resource to help the Marines return to a suitable level of fitness and appearance.

Finally he will ensure the Marines understand the negative connotation associated with being assigned to a BCP and that lack of progress can result in loss of reenlistment options, promotion opportunities and even discharge.

Gen. Conway has allowed commanders to have continuous say in the assignment of his Marines in the Military Appearance Program. Because Marines come in all different shapes and sizes, he feels this is imperative.

With this authority granted to the commanders, they can decided that even if Marines are within height and weight standards, or body fat composition percentages, or both, they can still be assigned to a MAP.

With this said, the program will be designed more to reapportion weight, vice weight loss. Marines should also be given the benefit of the informal program before being

assigned to the appearance program.

If assignment to a formal program is necessary, the commander will provide resources, counseling and unit diary entries as with the BCP. Should a Marine show no progress in the program, reenlistment and promotion opportunities will be denied.

The commander also has the power, through the MAP, to determine that although a Marine is outside of the height and weight or body composition standards, his or her uniformed appearance is commensurate with that of a squared away Marine. If this happens to be the case, the commander can seek a waiver on behalf of this Marine through Headquarters Marine Corps.

In an effort to maintain fairness, Marines assigned to the MAP will have the right to appeal their status to the next higher officer in their chain of command.

The commandant stated that leaders are encouraged to take advantage of the modern resources to help their fellow Marines overcome weight problems.

Gen. Conway drew the line for commanders by stating that selective compliance with the Marine Corps Orders on weight control is over. Decisions to assign Marines to body composition and appearance programs may be difficult, and sometimes involve Marines who are otherwise solid performers, it is the right thing to do for the individual and the institution, he added.

He entrusted them with the responsibility to implement the fitness and weight control programs and informed them that they will be held accountable for those responsibilities.



The recent change to ALMAR 033/08 states that physical fitness test scores and personal appearance standards will be linked in future evaluation. U.S. Marine Corps photo

## Combat fitness, from pg. 1

common combat tasks every Marine has been exposed to regardless of military occupation.

“These are the things all Marines should expect to do in combat,” said Pfc. Ashley L. Pett, a supply clerk with Weapons Training Battalion who participated in CFT trials at Quantico. “We are all going to be out there just like the grunts, doing things they typically do.”

Various groups, including veterans of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, helped shape the CFT by describing their experiences in the Long War.

“We wanted the events to directly reflect the input of our combat vets,” McGuire said.

While officials with Training and Education Command have determined a minimum and maximum grading scale, an appropriate point system similar to the physical fitness test has yet to be finalized.

The CFT will be a semi-annual requirement for active duty Marines and an annual requirement for reserve Marines; however, a CFT and a PFT shall not be run on the same day. Each event will be scored and timed separately. Male and female Marines will perform the same tasks, but will be graded on different scales.

“The CFT and PFT are the perfect combination,” said Sgt. Maj. Ronald L. Green, sergeant major for Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps.

By implementing the CFT, Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent hopes

Marines will become well-rounded in both areas instead of just training to the PFT.

“For those who tested it, from the 18-year-old to the 60-year-old Marine, all of them think this is a great thing to do,” Kent said. “It’s challenging, but I’m confident that every Marine will pass.”

“Throughout our 232-year history, the Marine Corps has fulfilled commitments to make Marines and win our nation’s battles,” said Conway. “Our fellow Americans recognize that long tradition and expect it to continue. As a fighting force, our ability to fulfill this commitment and accomplish the mission is dependent, in part, upon the fitness of our Marines.”

A video of the CFT, layout diagrams and other materials can be found at [www.tecom.usmc.mil](http://www.tecom.usmc.mil).

## BRIEFS

### Men’s Varsity Softball Team tryouts

The MCRD Men’s Varsity Softball Team tryouts will be held for all experienced active duty aboard or attached to the depot at the depot softball field Sept. 8 at 5 p.m. Games will be held during the week and some weekends to prepare for the West Coast Regional Softball Tournament. For information, call Master Sgt. Manzano at (619) 524-1980 or e-mail [antonio.manzano@usmc.mil](mailto:antonio.manzano@usmc.mil).

### Nutrition seminar series

The Fall into Healthy Eating Nutrition Seminar Series will be held on Sept. 10, 17 and 24, with meetings from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Bldg. 6E classroom. Topics to be covered are: the do’s and don’ts of dining out; uncovering the truth about fad diets; and general nutrition and weight management. Refreshments will be provided. Sign up online at [www.mccsmcrd.com](http://www.mccsmcrd.com). For information, call Michelle Nail at (619) 524-8913.

### Learn to fix your car’s brakes

A free class on how to fix your car’s breaks will be held Sept. 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the depot Auto Skills Center. The class is open to active duty military, reservists, retirees and DoD employees and their guests. A Mexican buffet and free prize drawing for a front-end brake job will be provided. Sign up online at [www.mccsmcrd.com](http://www.mccsmcrd.com). For information, call Jose Ortega-Garcia at (619) 524-5240 or e-mail [ortegagarcia@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:ortegagarcia@usmc-mccs.org).

### Sand Volleyball Tourney

A coach’s meeting for the Sept. 17 Sand Volleyball Tourney will be held Sept. 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Athletics Office, Bldg. 5W. The tournament is open to all active duty, DoD and Navy employees aboard the depot. For information, call (619) 524-0548.

### Career and Education Fair

The Career Resource Management Center at Marine and Family Services will host a Career and Education Fair at the depot Field House, Bldg. 650, on September 17 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is open to active duty and reserve military, family members, retirees, DoD civilians, and other personnel with access to military installations. Attendees can meet with representatives from dozens of employers with local and nationwide opportunities in wide variety of fields, including government, law enforcement, sales and many others. For information, call the CRMC at (619) 524-1283/8440/8158.

### Boot Camp Challenge

The depot will host the 7th Annual Boot Camp Challenge, part of San Diego Fleet Week, Oct. 4 at 9 a.m. The event is an obstacle course made up of trenches, tunnels, cargo nets, push up stations, hay jumps and over 50 other obstacles. Cost for individuals is \$35; a three-person team is \$105; and a five-person team is \$175. The event is open to the public. Sign up online through [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). For information, call (619) 524-8083

SEND BRIEFS TO:

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# Corps' newest Lejeune carves out his own legacy

BY SGT. LUIS R. AGOSTINI  
RS Chicago

Kyle Philip Lejeune was content reading residential gas meters in Chicago's western suburbs – until he realized his true calling.

With a proud surname rich in Marine Corps history and tradition, the 2003 Sandwich High School graduate recently joined the ranks alongside four other Lejeunes, including his great-great grandfather, the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Lt. Gen. John A. Lejeune.

The other Lejeune men having served or currently serving in the Marine Corps include Kyle's father, Glenn Philip Lejeune, grandfather Amos Philip Lejeune, and cousin Dennis Michael Lejeune.

Lt. Gen. Lejeune served as a Marine officer for 39 years. His service also included leading the U.S. Army 2nd Division during World War I.

The 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps' legacy continues today as his Marine Corps Birthday message, first delivered on Nov. 10, 1921, is read annually in honor of the celebration, wherever Marines are posted throughout the world.

Still, Kyle was not so sure he'd ever be a Marine despite the rich lineage of Marine Corps service and a lifelong goal of continuing the family tradition.

"I had recruiters and everything at the high school during lunch time, and I was ready to rock-and-roll out of high school," said the 23-year-old Lejeune, who wrestled for

the Indians throughout high school.

Ironically, it was Kyle's father, who served as a military policeman in the Marine Corps in the early 70s, who spoke with the Marine Corps recruiters at the time and initially advised his son against enlistment.

"My father didn't see a reason for me joining the Marine Corps. He said I was already disciplined and a hard-worker," said Kevin.

Instead, he got a job as a gas meter reader with a northern Illinois gas company after graduating from high school.

"My job ... was not enough for me," he said. "It was a good job, but people change, and I changed."

"My parents' advice and support means a lot to me, but you have to want to be your own person, to do what you want to do. Your parents aren't going to live your life; you are. If you're not going to do something that gives you pride and fulfillment, then you're not going to do your best and you're not going to enjoy your life," Kevin said.

"Like any father, I wanted to protect my son from experiencing some of the things that I saw in Vietnam. I didn't want him to see that," Glenn Lejeune said about not originally endorsing his son's decision.

"But I saw a determination and a want in his eyes that I've never seen before in 22 years. I have so many Marine friends that I still keep in touch with. He saw that, and I think he wanted to be a part of that special family."

So after deciding to find out what exactly the Marine Corps had to offer, he walked into Re-

cruiting Substation Aurora, Ill., with his cousin, also a Marine, and met canvassing recruiter Staff Sgt. Sergio Barrios. Surprisingly, Barrios said enlisting him was not the "easy in" some may assume.

"His father was a 20-year gunnery sergeant, and they knew a lot about the Marine Corps. They had a lot of questions and concerns," said Barrios.

However, Kyle liked what he heard and made it official March 26, shipping to recruit training in April and graduating as a Marine 13 weeks later.

"I feel like I'm a little part of Marine Corps history now," said Barrios, 28, from Austin, Texas. "There's a base (that bears) his last name."

Ironically, Kyle said he learned more about his famous

great-great grandfather after his decision to accept the challenge of becoming a United States Marine.

"Back when I was 18, I tried doing some research, but there's not a lot of information that my family has on (Lt. Gen. Lejeune) because everything was so confidential," said Kyle, better known now as Pvt. Lejeune.

"I gained more knowledge during recruit training about Gen. Lejeune than before I left," said Kyle. "While sitting in the classrooms during boot camp, the instructors would be going over Marine Corps history, and I was always hearing his name. Every time his name would be mentioned, everyone would look at me,"

He felt extra pressure to perform to live up to his name.

"I'd tried to keep (my name)

a secret, but it's hard when that name tape is on your cammies," said the 5-foot, 10-inch, 168-pound Marine. Fortunately, a discussion with his battalion and regimental sergeants major kept his mind right.

"They both told me that it's great to have that last name, but, 'you still have to be your own Lejeune,'" he recalled.

Kyle is not yet sure whether he wants to serve four or 30 years in the Corps, but he is content for now with carrying on the Lejeune tradition of service while still following his own path.

"It makes me feel proud to be a Lejeune," Kyle said. "It makes me think of all the great things he did for our country. Knowing my great-great grandfather, I know he would be pretty happy."



Pvt. Kyle Phillip Lejeune pauses to pose during his leave this month in Chicago. He is the fifth Lejeune to serve in the Marine Corps, and is currently going through his military occupational specialty school at the Army's Fort Lee, Va., where he is training to become a food service specialist. Photo courtesy of the Lejeune family.



Twenty-year Marine Corps veteran Glenn Phillip Lejeune shakes hands with his son, Pvt. Kyle Phillip Lejeune, following recruit training graduation at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 27. Kyle is the great-great grandson of 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps Lt. Gen. John A. Lejeune. Photo courtesy of the Lejeune family.

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# Company H night infiltration

BY LANCE CPL. SHAWN DICKENS  
*Chevron staff*

As part of night concealment training, the recruits of Company H run the Night Infiltration Course, which is one of the training exercises of the Crucible, on Edson Range, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 19.

The sun sets over the horizon as an eerie silence falls over the training area only to be shattered a few moments later when sounds of simulated gunfire and explosions fill the air.

Despite the echoing noise of simulated combat, the shouts of both drill instructors and recruits could be heard. The drill instructors shout “Motivation!” while the recruits shout that they are either “Set” (letting fellow team members know they are ready to provide cover for fellow recruits), or “Moving” (informing fellow recruits that they are pushing forward toward the next objective).

According to the field instructors

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At the setting of the sun, Company H recruits prepare to conduct the Night Infiltration Course at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 19. *Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron*



A recruit from Platoon 2174, Company H, makes his way through the tunnel, which stretches approximately 10-feet long. *Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron*



A Company H recruit provides security at the end of the tunnel, ensuring the team can move forward safely. *Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron*



# H recruits learn infiltration techniques

In Weapons and Field Training Battalion, the Night Infiltration Course is one of two courses located at Fort Irwin Range used to teach recruits how to rapidly assault through an enemy objective using the individual fire and movement skills they have learned while applying them in a team and ultimately, a fire team setting.

The recruits provide cover for one another as they use individual movement techniques to negotiate the course moving from a covered position, through an obstacle, to the next covered position.

During the course, recruits are trained through in four-man teams. The recruits simulate exiting an amphibious assault vehicle then alternate taking turns providing cover for each other and moving forward across an area toward the course's obstacles, which include crawling under concertina and concertina wire; jumping over trenches; scaling a wall; and crawling through a tunnel.

All of this takes place as field instructors control a pair of air pow-

ered rifles located next to the course to simulate automatic weapons fire and boomer pits to simulate artillery explosions, adding a realistic feel to the training evolution.

Drill instructors also yell commands over the noise of the simulated battle to the groups of recruits to ensure that they safely traverse the obstacles.

"It was pretty loud, with all the explosions going off it made it hard to concentrate," said Recruit Cody Hughes, Platoon 2174, Company H. "But it made it (the training) realistic and after a while, you don't notice them as much."

The shouts of the instructors and explosions from the artificial artillery are designed to create a stressful and confusing environment for the recruits.

"With everything going on around you, it was hard to remember to keep moving," said Recruit Milbert Velmarez, Platoon 2174, Company H. "I can kind of understand what it would be like in combat now."



end of the tunnel to ensure fellow teammates were able to negotiate the



Recruit Cody C. Hughes, Platoon 2174, applies camouflage paint to his face before joining his team on their run through the Night Infiltration Course. Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron



A fire team of Company H recruits low crawl under a concertina and barbed wire obstacle while transporting ammunition to a designated location at the end of the infiltration course. Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron



# Former California firefighter blazes new trail

BY LANCE CPL. JOSE NAVA  
*Chevron Staff*

Pfc. Matthew J. Foglesong, Platoon 2173, Company H, wanted to be a Marine before he saved lives as a firefighter.

Before arriving at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 2 as a recruit, Foglesong, a Carlsbad, Calif. native, spent six years as a firefighter with the Bishop,

Calif., Fire Department. He aided in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and fought last year’s San Diego fires.

During Katrina, Foglesong helped out families who were stranded as a swift water rescue swimmer.

“There was a call that we got a family of four; a father, mother and two boys, one 6-year-old and a 6-month-old, stuck in a tree for three days with no food or water,” said Foglesong. “When we arrived

at the scene, the mother was holding on to her deceased son, and she wouldn’t let go of him. It broke my heart, and when I got off that shift, the first thing I did was call my mother and tell her that I love her.”

Though a great deal of calls into the fire station were critical, they were not all terrible, explained Foglesong. On his second day on the job, he helped to deliver a baby on the way to the hospital.

“They named the baby after me,” said Foglesong with a chuckle.

Foglesong mentioned that he believed fighting fires was the most challenging thing he could do out it the civilian world.

He recalled one incident when the smoke masked the sky turning the sky brown. His team neared the fire as ash began falling all around the convoy, stinging their eyes and throat.

All they could see through the thick, choking fog was the rear lights of the vehicle in front of them. A glow could be seen growing bigger and brighter.

“After we broke through the fog, it was just the fire and us,” said Foglesong. “The proximity to the fire made it sound like a freight train and the team had to repeat what they were saying over and over again.”

Foglesong said that helping out the families of the people that protect the country is what made the difference for him when called to fight the fires near the military bases.

At 25-years-old, Folgesong was ready to take on new

challenges and learn new things so he decided to try the military occupational specialty of a basic reconnaissance Marine.

“I want to test myself and see what I’m made of,” said Foglesong. “The fire already tested me and I proved myself so I’m ready to move on.”

As an older member of the platoon, Foglesong was motivated by his younger peers as he made friends in boot camp and displayed his leadership ability.

“He is already mature and came in with good leadership skills and abilities,” said Staff Sgt. Jared C. Hernandez, drill instructor, Company H. “Foglesong is ready for the challenge of the Marine Corps and he will do good things.”

Foglesong has plans to serve 20 years in the Marine Corps and undertake any challenge put in front of him.

“I joined the Marine Corps because I knew it was going to be a challenge and wanted to make a difference,” said Foglesong. “I am ready to do whatever it takes to make that happen.”



**Pfc. Matthew J. Foglesong, Platoon 2173, Company H, for the next command from his drill instructor during graduation practice Tuesday. Foglesong was a former firefighter with the Bishop, Calif., Fire Department for six years before joining the Marine Corps.** *Lance Cpl. Jose Nava/Chevron*



**Foglesong, front row-second from right, marches in his platoon as the second squad leader.** *Lance Cpl. Jose Nava/Chevron*

## Col. David W. Coffman

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Col. David W. Coffman was born and raised in Eustis, Fla., graduated cum laude from Duke University, and was commissioned a Marine second lieutenant through the NROTC Program in May 1985. He completed flight school and was designated a naval aviator in May 1987.

As a CH-46 pilot, his operational flying tours include service with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-262; out of Hawaii, HMM-163; out of Marine Corps Air Station El Toro; Calif., and as commanding officer of HMM-161 at MCAS Miramar, Calif. During his squadron tours, he held various billets in operations and maintenance and completed a variety of deployments including Unit Deployment Program deployments to Okinawa, Japan, and Western Pacific and Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) deployments throughout the United States Pacific Command and U.S. Central Command areas of responsibility. As commanding officer of HMM-161 from August 2003

to May 2005, Coffman led the squadron during their 2004 deployment to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. The squadron served as the primary casualty evacuation squadron for I Marine Expeditionary Force, achieved a 100 percent mission success rate, and was recognized by the Marine Corps Aviation Association as the Edward C. Dyer Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron of the Year for 2004.

Coffman has served on staff at multiple levels of command, including MEU, Marine Air Group, MEF, Joint Task Force, and Combatant Command. While serving as an air officer with the 15th MEU, he planned and participated in Operation Support Hope in Rwanda; contingency operations in Somalia; and Operation Vigilant Warrior in Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf during 15th MEU’s 1994 CENTCOM deployment. He was the air operations officer for JTF Noble Response in support of humanitarian relief operations in Kenya in January through March 1998. He worked in the Operations Directorate at CENTCOM headquarters from August 1999 to July 2002 where he participated in the development and execution of combined

exercise programs with friendly nations on the Arabian Peninsula, and supervised the CENTCOM Amphibious Ready Group-MEU Exercise Program. In 2003, he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom I as the MAG-16 operations officer. From August 2006 to January 2008, Coffman served as future operations officer for I MEF.

Coffman graduated with honors from both The Basic School and the Amphibious Warfare School, earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies with highest distinction while attending the College of Naval Command and Staff at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., and completed a top-level-school-equivalent fellowship with the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, Calif., where he served as a commandant of the Marine Corps fellow providing Marine expertise to the ongoing national defense related research conducted at Rand.

Coffman was promoted to his present rank Nov. 1, 2006. He assumed command of the 13th MEU at Camp Pendleton, Calif., in January 2008 and is preparing to deploy the MEU aboard amphibious shiping in early 2009.

His awards include two Bronze Stars

for service in OIF; the Purple Heart for wounds received while flying a casualty evacuation mission in 2004; multiple single mission and strike flight air medals; other personal decorations for meritorious service; and numerous campaign and service medals.







**Platoon 2170**  
**COMPANY HONOR MAN**  
Lance Cpl. J. S. Busch  
Minneapolis  
Recruited by  
Sgt. R. J. Bosch



**Platoon 2175**  
**SERIES HONOR MAN**  
Pfc. J. C. Simlik  
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.  
Recruited by  
Gunnery Sgt. J. H. Garza



**Platoon 2169**  
**PLATOON HONOR MAN**  
Pfc. G. B. Bertagna  
Chico, Calif.  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. R. L. McDaniel



**Platoon 2171**  
**PLATOON HONOR MAN**  
Pfc. K. L. Toppert  
Dundee, Ill.  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. V. Cardona



**Platoon 2173**  
**PLATOON HONOR MAN**  
Pfc. C. J. Merfalen-  
Mendiola  
Los Angeles  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. R. Munoz



**Platoon 2173**  
**HIGH SHOOTER (330)**  
Pfc. L. M. Vargas Jr.  
Austin, Texas  
Marksmanship Instructor  
Sgt. R. F. Ramirez



**Platoon 2174**  
**HIGH PFT (300)**  
Pfc. G. M. Adame  
Nacogdoches, Texas  
Recruited by  
Staff Sgt. C. Nix

# HOTEL COMPANY

## 2ND RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

*Commanding Officer*  
Lt. Col. G. G. Malkasian  
*Chaplain*  
Lt. W. N. Tomasek  
*Sergeant Major*  
Sgt. Maj. M. J. O'Loughlin  
*Battalion Drill Master*  
Staff Sgt. C. A. Mejia

## COMPANY H

*Commanding Officer*  
Capt. R. A. Schenker  
*Company First Sergeant*  
1st Sgt. M. J. Brewer

## SERIES 2169

*Series Commander*  
Capt. J. B. Rehtmeyer  
*Chief Drill Instructor*  
Staff Sgt. J. M. Brown

## PLATOON 2169

*Senior Drill Instructor*  
Staff Sgt. J. T. McMillan  
*Drill Instructors*  
Staff Sgt. M. N. Caldas  
Staff Sgt. T. A. Sanderson  
Sgt. F. J. Olivias

\*Pfc. A. J. Adcock

Pfc. J. C. Alora

Pvt. R. E. Amerian

Pfc. P. Apichatskol

Pfc. L. P. Audet

Pvt. N. L. Auvil

Pvt. L. Barajas

Pvt. A. B. Barnett

Pvt. T. L. Barr

Pfc. M. T. Barta

Pfc. K. J. Beaver

Pfc. Z. A. Benson

Pfc. D. M. Bentley

Pfc. G. B. Bertagna

Pvt. M. T. Blackerby

Pfc. J. D. Boas

Pfc. K. R. Boas

Pvt. J. R. Boparai

Pvt. S. C. Bradford

Pfc. J. D. Braeger

Pfc. P. P. Brainerd

Pvt. S. Q. Brakke

Pvt. J. W. Brenek

Pvt. L. T. Buckingham

\*Pfc. S. M. Burau

Pfc. J. W. Burton

Pfc. M. A. Cain

Pvt. J. C. Campbell

Pfc. A. M. Carpenter

Pvt. G. C. Carrillo

Pvt. L. I. Chavez

Pvt. J. K. Clark

Pvt. S. M. Clymer

Pfc. H. K. Cobos

\*Pfc. M. R. Comia

Pvt. P. P. Conner

Pfc. J. E. Connery

Pfc. J. A. Coronado

Pvt. B. M. Coykendall

Pfc. D. S. Crone

Pfc. J. C. Dahlgren

Pfc. D. R. Daniel

Pvt. M. P. Davis

Pvt. R. F. Desoto III

Pvt. M. J. Devlin

\*Pfc. C. L. Dodge

Pvt. E. C. Doran

Pvt. K. J. Eldridge

Pfc. W. J. Espinoza

Pvt. H. Fierro

Pfc. A. L. Fillmore

Pfc. C. J. Flores

Pfc. V. W. Fowler

Pvt. J. L. Gallardo

Pfc. T. O. Garcia IV

Pvt. J. D. Gipson

Pvt. R. J. Gliddon

Pfc. J. M. Goebel

Pfc. D. A. Golladay

Pvt. J. P. Graf

Pvt. C. D. Greene

Pvt. J. L. Guenther

Pfc. G. B. Hanson

Pfc. A. E. Hasan

Pvt. C. M. Hay

Pfc. J. P. Hernandez

Pvt. M. A. Hernandez

Pfc. M. R. Herschel

Pvt. T. J. Highman

Pvt. W. A. Hill

Pvt. M. J. Hintz

Pvt. D. R. Hubbel

Pfc. N. W. Humphrey

Pfc. J. R. Jeter

Pvt. B. J. Johnson

Pvt. J. A. Johnson

Pfc. C. T. Johnston

Pfc. J. R. Kasten

Pfc. J. R. Kinsey

Pvt. D. M. Kuehn

Pvt. J. T. Legg

Pfc. N. M. Maaspisano

Pfc. S. D. Manning

Pfc. J. N. Martinez

Pvt. S. G. Midwinter

Pfc. L. C. Mundt

Pfc. A. T. Purcell

Pfc. J. W. Smith

Pfc. S. S. Steele

Pfc. J. B. Stevenson

## PLATOON 2170

*Senior Drill Instructor*  
Staff Sgt. R. A. Cain  
*Drill Instructors*  
Staff Sgt. F. J. Gonzalez  
Staff Sgt. C. M. Swan  
Sgt. M. J. Sanchez

Pfc. T. A. Adair

Pfc. D. J. Alsteen

Pvt. S. J. Amundson

Pfc. S. A. Anzalone

Pvt. J. W. Arias

Pvt. J. D. Baratta

Pvt. K. H. Blank

Pvt. C. W. Brown

Pvt. S. L. Brown

\*Lance Cpl. J. S. Busch

\*Pfc. J. M. Carder

Pfc. J. G. Carlson

Pvt. J. L. Carreno

Pfc. D. C. Conley

Pvt. J. W. Cook

Pfc. M. A. Cunningham

Pvt. K. X. Damon II

Pvt. E. D. Dandrea

Pvt. C. W. Darn

Pvt. D. M. Denlis

Pfc. J. D. Dominguez

Pfc. K. T. Dotson

Pvt. M. N. Drews

\*Pfc. D. L. Duffie

Pfc. J. J. Dyjack

Pfc. J. O. Edwards

Pvt. K. J. Erickson

Pvt. A. J. Feltz

Pvt. A. W. Frank-Fremont

Pvt. J. M. Frost

Pfc. K. L. Fulton

Pfc. A. S. Gibson

Pfc. C. A. Gonzalez

Pvt. C. G. Gray

Pvt. R. T. Grynsinski

Pfc. D. Harrison

Pvt. G. P. Haskell

Pvt. R. W. Hawkins

Pvt. B. M. Hayes

Pvt. J. K. Heberle

Pfc. C. D. Heyer

Pfc. F. Hiracheta

Pvt. M. T. Hollinsworth

Pvt. J. N. Holland

Pfc. K. A. Hook

Pvt. T. R. Howard

Pfc. S. J. Hudson

Pvt. C. S. Hulscher

Pvt. C. C. Jensen

Pvt. S. J. Jorgenson

Pfc. P. R. Kelly

Pvt. A. S. Kerner

Pvt. P. P. Conner

Pfc. J. E. Connery

Pfc. J. A. Coronado

Pvt. B. M. Coykendall

Pfc. D. S. Crone

Pfc. J. C. Dahlgren

Pfc. D. R. Daniel

Pvt. M. P. Davis

Pvt. R. F. Desoto III

Pvt. M. J. Devlin

\*Pfc. C. L. Dodge

Pvt. E. C. Doran

Pvt. K. J. Eldridge

Pfc. W. J. Espinoza

Pvt. H. Fierro

Pfc. A. L. Fillmore

Pfc. C. J. Flores

Pfc. V. W. Fowler

Pvt. J. L. Gallardo

Pfc. T. O. Garcia IV

Pvt. J. D. Gipson

Pvt. R. J. Gliddon

Pfc. J. M. Goebel

Pfc. D. A. Golladay

Pvt. J. P. Graf

Pvt. C. D. Greene

Pvt. J. L. Guenther

Pfc. G. B. Hanson

Pfc. A. E. Hasan

Pvt. C. M. Hay

Pfc. J. P. Hernandez

Pvt. M. A. Hernandez

Pfc. M. R. Herschel

Pvt. T. J. Highman

Pvt. W. A. Woods

Pvt. C. M. Wasson

## PLATOON 2171

*Senior Drill Instructor*  
Staff Sgt. R. Acosta  
*Drill Instructors*  
Staff Sgt. G. Rosas  
Sgt. L. R. Lambaren II  
Sgt. W. E. Satterfield

Pfc. N. W. Abey

Pvt. A. L. Alana

Pvt. R. T. Alexander

Pfc. R. E. Alvarado

Pvt. E. H. Avalos



Company H recruits stand by at sunset, awaiting further instruction as they prepare for their effort on the Night Infiltration Course at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 19. The Night Infiltration Course is part of the Crucible, their final exercise before graduating from recruit training. *Lance Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron*

Pvt. J. T. Bales

Pvt. B. A. Bennet

Pvt. I. E. Berg

Pvt. R. A. Bernal

Pvt. M. J. Bird

Pvt. M. N. Bond

Pfc. S. L. Bowser

Pvt. J. C. Boyd

Pvt. J. M. Bransom

Pvt. A. W. Bruce

Pfc. M. J. Chamberlain

Pvt. J. A. Clark

Pvt. N. W. Coberne

Pvt. B. P. Cochran

Pvt. O. C. Crawford III

Pfc. A. S. Cypher

Pvt. A. T. Doonan

Pvt. T. J. Eckles

Pvt. J. L. Freeman

Pvt. B. P. Galvan

Pfc. M. S. Garrison

Pvt. W. T. Gentry

Pfc. S. G. George

Pfc. J. A. Gil

Pvt. B. J. Gottwald

Pvt. J. H. Greenlief

Pvt. T. A. Gunther

Pvt. C. S. Hahn

Pfc. S. D. Harloff

Pvt. N. W. Heath

Pvt. M. L. Henderson

Pfc. S. A. Herron

Pvt. J. D. Hess

Pfc. J. L. Holland III

Pfc. N. B. Hopkins

Pvt. W. D. Kranz

Pfc. A. J. Kratch

Pvt. C. R. Kraus

\*Pfc. J. T. Krc

Pvt. P. J. Kruse

Pvt. K. L. Lafferty

Pfc. E. W. Lamb

Pvt. A. J. Landis

Pfc. J. L. Lang

Pvt. J. M. Laster

Pfc. R. W. Lulloff

Pfc. P. A. McIntosh

Pvt. M. C. Medrano

Pvt. R. P. Mendez

Pfc. F. A. Meza

Pvt. M. P. Milner

Pvt. A. L. Mize

Pfc. C. M. Moreau

Pvt. J. B. Murrill

Pfc. J. A. Perez

Pvt. J. L. Quick

Pfc. H. A. Ramirez-Roche

Pfc. B. R. Rondeau

Pvt. H. I. Soltow

Pfc. O. N. Vasquez

Pvt. B. R. Withers

Pvt. T. A. Woods

Pvt. C. M. Wasson

## PLATOON 2171

*Senior Drill Instructor*  
Staff Sgt. R. Acosta  
*Drill Instructors*  
Staff Sgt. G. Rosas  
Sgt. L. R. Lambaren II  
Sgt. W. E. Satterfield

Pfc. N. W. Abey

Pvt. A. L. Alana

Pvt. R. T. Alexander

Pfc. R. E. Alvarado



# Chargers honor services at 20th Annual Military Appreciation



The Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Color Guard march off the field during the pregame ceremony of the San Diego Charger's 20th Annual Military Appreciation Game Monday at Qualcomm Stadium. The color guard is (from left to right) Sgt. James Humerick, rifleman; Sgt. Ben Johns, color sergeant; Sgt. Jose Cruzarroyo, organizational color sergeant; and Sgt. Steven Phillips, rifleman. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*

BY CPL. KEVIN M. KNALLAY  
*Chevron staff*

More than 70 Marines from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego joined Marines from Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., at the San Diego Chargers 20th Annual Military Appreciation Game at Qualcomm Stadium

on Monday during a pre-season game against the Seattle Seahawks. The depot's color guard was alongside color guards from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard during the playing of the national anthem to open the game. Third Marine Aircraft Wing's band also played during the opening ceremony. At halftime, five Marines from the Wounded Warrior Detachment at Na-

val Medical Center San Diego received a roaring round of applause from all the spectators. Then, hundreds of service members carried out an American flag that covered most of the football field. "It felt great seeing and hearing everyone cheer so loudly for us," said Sgt. Matt Wee, a flag holder at the ceremony and the service record book noncommissioned officer at Con-

solidated Personnel Administration Center, MCRD San Diego. "When we walked off with the flag, you could hear people saying 'thank you.' It just felt really good." After the ceremonies, service members enjoyed the rest of the game where the Chargers went on to win 18-17 with a two-point conversion. The Chargers' final preseason game is tonight against the San Francisco 49ers.



San Diego Chargers defensive end Igor Olshansky hits Seattle Seahawks quarterback Charlie Frye during the Military Appreciation preseason game at Qualcomm Stadium Monday. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Marines from the Wounded Warrior Detachment and soldiers from the Warrior Transition Unit at Naval Medical Center San Diego, receive a standing ovation from thousands of fans i during the halftime ceremony. The Chargers invited an additional 30 Marines from Headquarters and Service Battalion to enjoy the game. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Service members march out the national ensign as part of the halftime ceremony at the Charger's game. The flag completely covered the field and involved more than 100 service members to conduct the ceremony. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*